



NEWS RELEASE

Today's Date: Friday, April 25, 2014

District: 05 – Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Monterey, San Benito and Santa Cruz Counties

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CALTRANS IRRIGATION SYSTEMS TO BECOME MORE WATER EFFICIENT

CENTRAL COAST– Several conservation projects to upgrade and repair Caltrans irrigation systems to become more water efficient, will begin across the five counties in the district, Caltrans officials announced today.

These conservation projects listed below help reduce water use in landscaped areas by 50% exceeding the 20% percent water use reduction order in the Governor's Proclamation of a State of Emergency due to the drought conditions.

San Luis Obispo/Santa Barbara Counties:

A project to reduce the water consumption used by highway irrigation systems near U.S Highway 101 between Los Osos Valley Road and Monterey Street in San Luis Obispo is underway. Motorists will encounter intermittent lane and ramp closures on southbound U.S. Highway 101 Monday through Thursday between 9 am and 12 noon beginning Monday, April 28. This project will include the installation of waterlines, pumps and electrical systems. Most of the pipe and electrical work will be performed between Prado Road and Marsh Street. Locations north of Marsh Street will have intermittent ramp closures. Motorists will encounter delays not to exceed ten minutes. Electronic message boards will be posted in advance to inform the public about this project. The contractor for this \$2.5 million project is Rockwood General Contractors of Nipomo. This project is expected to be completed in October.

In addition, a similar water conservation project will take place on Hwy. 46 West and State Route 135 beginning Monday, April 28 with no traffic delays anticipated. The contractor for this \$1.5 million project is KCI Environmental Inc. of San Luis Obispo.

Santa Cruz/Monterey/San Benito Counties:

A project to upgrade irrigation controllers, install flow sensors and repair main waterlines at spot locations along Hwy. 1 and Hwy. 101 in the Santa Cruz and Monterey areas will begin next month. All the facilities work will be inside buildings at the maintenance yards. No traffic control or delays are anticipated. Roadwork is scheduled to begin on Monday, May 5 and finish in August 2014. The contractor for this \$1.7 million project is Pacific Restoration Group Inc. of Perris, CA.

Visit: www.drought.ca.gov to learn more about how California is dealing with the effects of the drought, and for more water conservation ideas, visit: www.SaveOurH2O.org.

Caltrans reminds motorists to move over and slow down when driving through highway construction zones.
(more)





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For traffic updates on other state highways on the Central Coast, motorists can call Caltrans District 5 Public Affairs at 805-549-3318 or can visit the District 5 website at: http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist05/road_information.htm

